LOS ANGELES, Cont
Miss Mina Shepherd
[illegible] No. Ave. Fifty (S) 12-25

LOS ANGELES, Cont
Miss Mina Shepherd
[illegible] No. Ave. Fifty (S) 12-25
CALIFORNIA NO. 2

CALIFORNIA GARDEN

IN THIS NUMBER

20TH ANNUAL FALL FLOWER SHOW

PREMIUM LIST

BALBOA PARK NOTES

CATS—BIRDS—INSECTS—GARDENS

AUGUST, 1926 TEN CENTS

EARLY BULBS NOW READY

RANUNCULUS, ANEMONES,
BABY GLADIOLI, IXIAS,
PURITY FREESIAS,
COLORED FREESIAS.
EARLY FLOWERING SPENCER SWEET PEAS
In many BEAUTIFUL SHADES OF COLOR.

HARRIS SEED CO.

"The Seed Service Store"
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The magazine—"California Garden," a practical local guide published monthly for 17 years. Subscription $1.00 per year.

The official organ of the San Diego Floral Association, now in its 21st year of continuous activities.

All interested in garden matters and civic beautification are invited to join. Dues $1.00 per year. P. O. Box 323, San Diego.

The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 18 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST, 1926 No. 2

PREMIUM LIST

San Diego Floral Association 20th Annual Fall Flower Show—September 11th-12th 1926—Balboa Park

Section A—Open to Professionals

Class

1. Best Collection of Decorative plants and Flowers, arranged for effect in space 100 square feet.
2. Best Collection of Twenty-five Shrubs for Garden Use.
3. Best Collection of Vines.
4. Best Collection of Potted or Boxed Ferns.
5. Best Specimen Sword Fern.
6. Best Specimen Fern Other Than Sword Fern.
7. Best Decorative Plant for House.
8. Best New Plant or Flower Not Exhibited Before.
9. Best Collection of Potted Plants.

*10. Best Display of Begonias, grown in pots or boxes.

11. Best Vase, Basket or Other Arrangement of Zinnias.
12. Best Collection of Zinnias.

*13. Best Collection of Asters.

*14. Best Arranged Basket of Flowers by Professionals.

15. Best Civic or Service Display of Plants and Flowers, Quality and Arrangement to be Main Points.

Section B—For Amateurs.

*15a. Best Garden Display from 50 foot lot.

*15b. Best Garden Display from over 50 foot lot.

16. Best Collection Asters American Beauty Type.
17. Best Collection Asters, Crego Type.
18. Best Collection Asters, Victoria Type.
18. Best Collection of Asters, Single Type.
20. Best Vase of Asters, any Variey, 25 Blooms.

*21. Aster Sweepstake.

*22. Best Collection of Annuals.

*23. Best Arranged Basket of Flowers.

*24. Best Collection of Bulbous Flowers.

25. Best Collection Gladiolus. Open to all.
26. Best Display of African Marigolds.
27. Best Display of French Marigolds.
28. Best Collection of Perennials.

*29. Best Collection of Zinnias.

30. Best Six Blooms Zinnias, Red or Red Shades.
31. Best Six Blooms Zinnias, White or White Shades.
32. Best Six Blooms Zinnias, Pink or Pink Shades.
33. Best Six Blooms Zinnias, Orange or Orange Shades.
34. Best Six Blooms Zinnias, Yellow or Yellow Shades.
35. Best Six Blooms Zinnias, Lavender or Lavender Shades.
36. Best Six Blooms Zinnias, Any Other Color.
37. Best Six Blooms Zinnias, Picotee Type.
48. Best Twenty-five Blooms Mixed Zinnias, Small Mexican.
39. Best Collection Liliput Zinnias.
40. Zinnia Sweepstakes.
41. Best Arranged Vase or Bowl of Zinnias, Greenery Allowed.
42. Best Arranged Basket of Zinnias, Greenery Allowed.

Section C

43. Best Collection of Potted Fibrous Begonias.
44. Best Display of Cut Blooms, Fibrous Begonas.
45. Best One Specimen Fibrous Begonia.
46. Best Display Potted Fibrous Begonias.
57. Best One Specimen Tuberous Begonia.

*48. Best Collection Rex Begonias grown in pots or other receptacle.

49. Best One Specimen Rex Begonia grown in pot or other receptacle.
50. Best Specimen Rex Begonia, San Diego Seedling, open competition.
51. Best Arranged Basket, Vase or Bowl of Ferns and Begonias.
52. Best Specimen Maidenhair Fern.
53. Best Specimen Fern Other Than Maidenhair.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

F. A. BODE
Landscape Gardener

Trees,
Shrubs,
Bedding Plants,
Roses,

Complete Collection of Plants suitable for San Diego.

Bode's Nursery

PHONE HILLCREST 2825-J
SALESYARD 1260 UNIV. AVE.

54. Best Collection of Ferns.
55. Best Fern Hanging Basket.
56. Best Hanging Basket Other than Fern.
57. Best Foliage Plant for Interior Decoration.
58. Best Flowering Vine (must be in flower).
59. Best Collection of Cut Sprays, Flowering Trees or Shrubs.
60. Best Collection Berried Shrubs (cut sprays or in pots).
61. Best Collection Bamboo and Grasses.
62. Best New Flower or Plant Not Before Exhibited.
*63. Best Dining Table Decoration.

Section D—Dahlias—Professionals

*63a. Best General Display Arranged for Effect, potted plants and foliage allowed for embellishment.
64. Best 12 Blooms, any variety.
65. Best 12 Blooms Cactus, 1 or more varieties.
66. Best 12 Blooms Hybrid Cactus, 1 or more varieties.
67. Best 12 Blooms Collarettes, 1 or more varieties.
68. Best 12 Blooms Decorative, 1 or more varieties.
69. Best 12 Blooms or Fancy Variegated, 1 or more varieties.
70. Best 12 Blooms Peony, 1 or more varieties.
71. Best 12 Blooms Pom Pom, 1 or more varieties.
*72. Best 2 Blooms Show, 1 or more varieties.
73. Best 12 Blooms Semi-double or Duplex, 1 or more varieties.
74. Best Collection Cactus Dahlias, 1 bloom each variety.
75. Best Collection Hybrid Cactus, 1 bloom each variety.
76. Best Collection Collarettes, 1 bloom each variety.
77. Best Collection Decorative, 1 bloom each variety.
78. Best Collection Fancy or Variegated, 1 bloom each variety.
79. Best Collection Peony Flowered, 1 bloom each variety.
80. Best Collection Pom Poms, 3 blooms each variety.
81. Best Collection Show, 1 bloom each.
82. Best Collection Semi-double or Duplex, 3 blooms each.
83. Best Collection Single Dahlias, 3 blooms each variety.
84. Best Collection of California Dahlias, 12 blooms, 12 varieties.
85. Best Established Three-year-old Seedling. Open to all.
86. Best Collection Unregistered Seedlings. Open to all.
87. Best 1925 Seedling. Open to all.
88. Best 1926 Seedling. Open to all.
*89. One Best Bloom Exhibited at Show, stem and foliage considered.
90. Smallest Perfect Pom Pom Dahlia.
*91. Most Artistic Basket of Dahlias in Show, use of other foliage permitted.
92. Most Artistic Basket of Pom Poms in Show, use of other foliage permitted.
*93. Dahlia Cup for Best (6) Blooms, (1) bloom each of 6 classes, one bloom only in each vase. Open to all.
*94. Best 6 Blooms, 6 Varieties, California Introductions. (Gold Medal Dahlia Society of California.) Open to all.

Amateurs

*95. Best Collection of Dahlias, 1 of each variety. Prize Competitive Cup to be won for three years.
96. Best Six Blooms Cactus, 1 or more varieties.
97. Best Six Blooms Hybrid Cactus, 1 or more varieties.
98. Best Six Blooms Collarettes, 1 or more varieties.
99. Best Six Blooms Decorative, 1 or more varieties.
100. Best Six Blooms Fancy or Variegated, 1 or more varieties.
101. Best Six Blooms Peony, 1 or more varieties.
102. Best Six Blooms Pom Pom, 1 or more varieties.
103. Best Six Blooms, Show, 1 or more va-

rieties.
104. Best Six Blooms Semi-double or Duplex, 1 or more varieties.
105. Best Six Blooms Single, 1 or more varieties.
106. Best Collection Cactus Dahlias, 1 bloom each variety.
107. Best Collection Hybrid Cactus,, 1 bloom each variety.
108. Best Collection Collarettes, 3 blooms each variety.
109. Best Collection Decorative, 1 bloom each variety.
110. Best Collection Peony, 1 bloom each variety.
111. Best Collection Pom Poms, 3 blooms each variety.
112. Best Collection Show, 1 bloom each variety.
113. Best Collection Semi-double or Duplex 3 blooms each variety.
114. Best Collection Single, 3 blooms each variety.
*115. Best Dahlia Exhibited by Amateur.
*116. Best Artistic Basket of Dahlias, use of other foliage permitted.
*117. Best Artistic Basket of Pom Poms, use of other foliage permitted.
*118. Best Keeping Dahlia in Amateur Section.

*Indicates cup or other trophy in class so indicated.

Dahlias will be judged according to following points:

Color 20, Stem and Foliage 25, Substance 15, Form, 20, Size 20, equals 100.

SUMMER FLOWER SHOW

A very creditable show of summer flowers was held in the Floral Building, Balboa Park, Tuesday afternoon, August 3rd. The exhibits were of a high order of excellence, and after the prizes were awarded, refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed by all.

Prizes were awarded as follows

Best Display of Annuals: 1st prize, Mrs. Burnham, Loma Portal; 2nd prize, Mrs. M. Eckels, Lemon Grove.

Best Display of Perennials: 1st prize, Miss Mary Matthews; 2nd prize, Mrs. Geo. Gardner, Loma Portal.

Best Arranged Basket: 1st prize, Mrs. Lillian R. Nicholson; 2nd prize, Mrs. Gibbs.

Best Arranged Vase or Bowl: 1st prize, Miss Frances M. Lawrence; 2nd prize, Miss Alberta Chanter.

Best Novelty: 1st prize, Mrs. D. F. Harners (Meadow Rue); 2nd prize, Mrs. Archibald C. Younkin (Antigonon Leptopus, Rose of the Mountain).

Best Single Bloom: Miss Alberta Chanter (Dahlia).

SHOW COMMITTEES

20th Annual Fall Flower Show, September 11th and 12th.

Dahlias—John Marshall. Phone Hillcrest 4193-W.

Zinnias—Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Gibb. Phone Hill. 2947.

Begonias and Ferns—John Morley,. Phone Main 0605.

Garden Displays—Mrs. Geo. Gardner. Phone Bayview 0346-M.

Annuals and Perennials—Mrs. Leonard Ellis. Phone Hill. 0724.

Asters—Dr. Anita Muhl. Phone Hill 0591.

Bulbs—Mrs. Lena Rutan. Phone Hill. 3209-R.

Miscellaneous — Walter Merrill. Phone Bayview 0601-J.

Baskets—Mrs. Fred Scripps, Mrs. B. L. Elliott. Phone Hill. 0378.

Dining Tables—Miss Alice Halliday. Phone Hill. 4041-W.

Professionals—Walter Birch. Phone Main 0842.

Floor Plans and Judges—John Morley.

Chairman Clerks—Mrs. Case. Phone 3-1502.

Information for Entries—Miss Alice Jones, Phone 1482-J.

Naming—Miss Mary Matthews. Hill. 4710-W; Mrs. Hathaway.

Gate—Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Elliott.

Publicity—Mr. Neff ,Bakkers.

General Chairman—Mrs. Mary Greer. Phone Hill 1550-J.

House Committee—Miss Alice Halliday, Mrs. H. W. Gibb.

Program Committee—Walter Merrill, Mrs. John Burnham, Walter Birch.

JULY MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the San Diego Floral Association was held Friday, July 20th, in the Floral Building, Balboa Park.

Mrs. Mary A. Greer, president, called the meeting to order and announced an informal show of annuals and perennials to be held in the Floral Building, Tuesday, August 3rd. Mrs. Greer made an appeal for general participation in this show.

Announcement fo the next meeting of the association on August 17th, was made—speakers for this meeting will be announced through the newspapers.

Miss Kate O. Session then gave an illustrated lecture on Hawaii, in which she was assisted by Mr. Harold Taylor, who managed

(Continued on Page 4)

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

BALBOA PARK NOTES

By Supt. Jno. G. Morley.

News and notes of the Park Department are being resumed in this issue, and will deal from time to time with projected improvements and those under way; seasonal plantings of flowers, bulbs, shrubs, etc., along with whatever important programs of entertainment take place and are contemplated.

The present year, to date, has been a strenvere storm in April a small cyclone passed through a portion of Balboa Park, commencing on the west side opposite Grape Street uous one for several reasons,—during the seand through to Park Boulevard when hundreds of trees were blown down and uprooted, causing an immense amount of damage estimated at $75,000, which includes the replanting of the devastated area. Owing to the limited finances of the Department, the Board of Park Commissioners requested an appropriation of $10,000 from the Emergency Fund of the City Council. The Council very generously acceded to the request, the money being used for the cleaning up and removal of the debris and is now practically completed. Visitors to the Park would hardly notice the change, but those who are familiar with the former beauty of the destroyed sections can appreciate the changed appearance and the difficulties faced in the removal of the hundreds of fallen trees to temporarily restore that portion of the Park to its former beauty.

Seasonal planting of flowers to date has been for spring flowers,—48,000 pansies; 4,500 calendulas; 3,000 larkspurs; 3,500 snapdragons; 4,000 stocks; 2,000 schizanthus and 1,800 cinerarias.—for the summer and fall flowers, 4,300 dahlias; 4,000 African marigolds; 4,600 asters; 17,300 zinnias,—these with several hundred each of tuberous begonias, gloxinias, Japanese lilies, exacum affine, also several hundred perennial flowering plants, which provide a continuance of bloom throughout the year.

At the present time, the dahlia garden south of the Organ Pavilion is a riot of color with the many varieties in bloom and the borders of brilliant flowering cannas give it an effective setting. The dahlias on the west side of the Park are just commencing to bloom in profusion and together with the large quantities of zinnias, as well as other seasonal flowers, Balboa Park will be well worth a visit to see the floral display.

September 11th and 12th is the date for the annual Fall Show of the Floral Association, to be held in Balboa Park. Prospective exhibitors should bear this in mind so that the quality of the flowers and plants exhibited will be the best we have ever had at this season of the year, and make the show as artistic and financially successful as the one held in the spring.

SEPTEMBER WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Dean Blake.

Among those who have lived for any length of time in San Diego it is generally agreed that September is the hottest month of the year. And in a certain way this is true. While the mean temperature is higher in July and August, yet in September the highest readings are apt to be made. Of the 71 days with a maximum over 90 degrees since 1872 in San Diego, 29 have occurred in this month. However, as they are invariably accompanied by very low humidities and drying winds, they are never oppressive or unduly enervating.

As a rule the rainfall is little or none, but once in a while a "tramp storm" comes over the section giving unwelcome showers to those engaged in fruit picking and drying. Cloudless skies, a rare phenomena for any length of time in the summer, prevail for days at a time. The nights too become cooler; the air clearer and drier; while the wind remains light, blowing mostly from the ocean. Taken by and large, it is an extremely pleasant time of the year.

For this month the mean maximum temperature is 73°; the mean minimum 61°, the the highest temperature—and the only one of such an extreme—was recorded on September 17, 1913, namely 110°. The greatest rainfall for the month was 1.25 inches in 1921.

JULY MEETING

(Continued from Page 3)

the lantern slides for her. Miss Sessions possesses a charm of speech and a flow of language at all times; but on this occasion, she was so full of her subject and her enthusiasm so great that one felt almost as if actually seeing the beauties of the Hawaiian islands were sparsely peopled and but little colored photo.

She spoke of the wonderful change since she was first there, fifty years ago, when the islands were sparcely peopled and but little cultivated.

Her talk and illustrations covered a wide field—plants and flowers naturally being the most important to her; but roads and plantation, volcano and general character of the land were given their place in her talk. It is to be regretted that all members of the association and others, as well, could not have been present to hear her.

Punch and cookies were then served by the House Committee, to the enjoyment of all.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The August and Sept. Gardens

GARDEN REMINDERS

By Mary Matthews.

These warm days are not conductive to much strenuous work, still there are things that must be done and some of them without great effort.

Watch your asters, keep them moist but avoid too much water, disbud when you wish only a few large blooms to each plant. Give a dressing of wood ashes to prevent root aphis. Where summer blooming plants are slacking up, cut off all seed pods, give a good watering and apply liquid manure. This will greatly lengthen the bloom period.

Cut out all weeds that are seeding now; this is just as necessary in August as in the spring. One weed allowed to seed now may give hundreds of plants later on.

Your lawn will appreciate a dressing of bone meal this month.

Schizanthus, mignonette, nemesias and Primula Malicoides can be sown now for winter blooms. There is a new primula malicoides offered this season, doubleflowered and much larger. Said to be excellent for cutting. This with the rose and pure white ones offered last year gives quite a range in colors. These primulas are very dainty and the name given them, "Fairy Primroses" well suits them.

Cyclamen seeds should be sown about the first of August; get the finest strain and be sure the seeds are fresh.

Pansies, Violas, be sure and try some of these. "Jersey Gem" is considered the finest. Violas, though smaller than pansies, give a continuous season's bloom and are a good border plant. Cinerarias can also be sown now for early bloom.

Plant bulbs of the St. Joseph's lily (Lilium candidum) in August, if you wish to succeed with it. A sprinkling of sulphur on the bulbs will often check decay—they often rot if good drainage is not given.

If your Amaryllis Belladonna need transplanting, do it as soon as the blooming is finished; if done later you are apt to go the next season without blooms. Plant bulbs of the paper white type of narcissus and of freesias, as soon as you can get them.

Sow seeds of Hollyhocks and Columbines as soon as ripened—there are other things that can be done, but enjoy your garden, do not be a slave to it, as we are so often apt to do. Frequently the work does us instead of our doing the work.

THE GARDEN

By Walter Birch

A great many of us neglect proper preparation of the soil, some little time before planting our flowers or vegetables or ornamental plants as the case may be, and often yank out one thing and stick in another without much thought as to soil and other requisites of the plant or plants we are putting in. And while one realizes that in the average small garden there may not be much choice of either soil or location, at the same time we ought to remember that the possibilities of any soil or any location can be made much greater for most plants by proper treatment.

It is fast approaching the time when we will want to make the most of the heat that is still left in the ground to give the many annuals and perennials that should go in now, a good start before the ground becomes too cold to promote quick growth. Time for early bulb planting is practically here, also sweet peas, so that we should not lose a moment in preparing the ground.

If possible procure some good and fairly well pulverised cow manure and spread it several inches thick on the ground, and if your soil is heavy add garden lime or gypsum at the rate of 100 lbs. to 1000 sq. ft. of surface (or a space 25x40 feet). Make furrows about 3 ft. apart and run water in them for several hours, or long enough to wet the ground thoroughly to a depth of three feet. Leave until dry enough to dig and then take a good spading fork and turn over to a depth of 12 or 14 inches, leaving the surface in the rough, so as to give sun and air a chance to penetrate, until you are ready to plant or sow, when it can be raked down to a fine surface suitable for a seed bed. Be sure, however, to cultivate and work the ground so as to get rid of all lumps and air pockets, as a good seed bed is of first importance.

The above are directions in a general way for the preparation of the ground for the average run of plants, either flowers or vegetables, and these can be supplemented by the addition of leaf mold or bone meal or other helps to plant life, according to the particular varieties of plants or bulbs you want to raise, the idea being that, no matter what you want to raise, you should give some decent preparation to the soil before you plant or sow.

For early blooms it is now time to plant

(Continued on Page 7)

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

The California Garden

Editor
R. R. McLean
Associate Editors
Miss Mary Matthews
Alfred D. Robinson

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

The San Diego Floral Association

P. O. Box 323 San Diego, Cal.

Main Office, San Diego, California

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Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the Post office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.

ADVERTISING RATES

One Page	$15.00	Half Page,	$7.50
Quarter Page	3.75	Eighth Page	2.00

Advertising Copy should be in by the 20th of each Month

Subscription, $1.00 per year

McKELVEY'S
Elite Printing Co. 851 2nd. St., San Diego

EDITORIAL

NEW EDITOR—The new editor finds himself in a rather embarrassing predicament by reason of the lack of a nimble-witted tongue. When it was suddenly announced to him that he had been drafted into service, no convincing words of refusal seemed to be available out of his store of assorted negatives usually held in reserve for such emergencies. By the time his vocabulary had been gotten in hand again—this sounds like pure Hibernian,—it was too late. Now that the deed is done and the first editorials are to be produced out of what appears to be more or less of mental vacuum, the editor begins to realize what he has let himself in for. To edit a periodical and do it well, is job enough, but when it has to be second fiddle to a calling that is in itself exacting, one wonders if both will not suffer to some extent. At any rate the editor appreciates the confidence the Board of Directors has in him and will surely try to merit its continuance. He will need, however, the whole-hearted support of every member of the Floral Association.

It should be understood at the beginning that the present editor is not by any means a garden expert nor does he pretend to be. His training has been along the lines of diagnosis and pest control, both insect and disease, as relates to economic and ornamental plants and plant products. With these limitations clearly defined it will not, perhaps, be deemed a heresy, if he occasionally makes such blunders as to get Mr. Robinson's begonias confused with Miss Session's heathers or Mr. Birch's zinnias.

OLD EDITOR—From many sources come expressions of sincere regret that Mr. Robinson has found it necessary to relinquish the active management of the California Garden.

Few men are so well-fitted to edit a garden magazine as he and few have done it so successfully. His editorials and comments have been in a class by themselves and certainly have added much interest to every issue. The value of his long years of service, 15 or more, to the San Diego Floral Association and to other lovers of flowers and gardens cannot be measured and dismissed by a few words such as these. The fact that he is to continue his connection with the magazine as associate editor insures his active participation in future numbers, one of the compensations the new editor already finds need for.

FLOWER SHOW COMING—Please note again the dates of the Fall Flower Show, September 11th and 12th. The Flower show certainly ought to have the support of every lover of flowers and gardens. Nowhere in California will finer displays of "home grown" blooms be exhibited than here. Make an entry if you possibly can, but if you cannot, come and see what others have done with no better soil and no greater opportunity than yours. Finally, bring your friends.

RURAL GARDENS—This is a plea for rural gardens. Of all places where flowers and ornamental plants ought to be made part and parcel of a home it is in the outlying suburban districts or in the country itself. During a long and varied experience in plant inspection work in San Diego County, the writer has time and again passed on complete plantings of fruit vines and trees for new rural homes and noted not one single ornamental or one lone flower seed in the lot. Possibly these incidentals (?) were later picked up at random, but the natural inference is that they were not considered as necessary in planning the new home. This does not, of course, imply that the majority of rural homes are without flower gardens, but gardenless homes are all too common, just the same. What can be done to stimulate interest in ornamental plantings around rural homes? Would it help, say, to designate special competitive classes for exhibitors of flowers brought in to our Shows from gardens outside of incorporated cities? How about the best city-grown 6, 8 or a dozen dahlias,

for instance, against a like number of the best country-grown? Such a competitive exhibit would not be one-sided, by any means, for some of the finest flowers in San Diego County are grown in the country.

BULB REGULATIONS

Federal and State regulations are now in effect covering the requirements for certification and sterilization of all narcissus bulbs moving inter-county or inter-state. In plain English this means that narcissus bulbs cannot be moved into or out of San Diego County, unless they are certified to be free of certain bulb pests, to-wit, the bulb nematode and the greater and lesser bulb flies, or have been sterilized by hot water at certain definite temperatures. In order to certify bulbs as free from these pests, at least three inspections must be made by designated officials—the County Horticultural Commissioner or his Inspectors—during the growing period of the bulbs and in the case of bulb flies, an inspection subsequent to digging must also be made.

To sterilize bulbs properly they must be immersed in hot water for a period of from 2½ to 3 hours. The temperature during this time must not go below 110° nor rise above 111.5°. If it falls below 110° the nematodes or bulb flies will not be killed and if it goes higher than 111.5° the bulbs may be injured.

To care for the rapidly growing bulb industry in San Diego County and to provide means for the prompt and safe sterilization of infested stocks, the Board of Supervisors has authorized the Horticultural Commissioner to purchase two California Floral Bulb Sterilizers of the latest type. These are equipped with thermostatically controlled electric heating units and motor driven water circulating pumps.

By means of the thermostatic device the heat is automatically thrown on or off as the temperature in the vat falls below 110 degrees or above 111.5 degrees. The vats have a capacity of 1¼ tons per day. One sterilizer is now in operation on county property at First and G streets, Chula Vista, and the second is in process of installation at Encinitas.

Visitors will be welcome at these plants at any time. The inspectors in charge will be glad to demonstrate the how and why of bulb sterilizing and demonstrate what San Diego County is doing to foster a very promising floral industry.

THE GARDEN

(Continued from Page 5)

Winter Blooming Spencer Sweet Peas. Be sure and soak the ground thoroughly, dig deeply and manure heavily, work to a fine surface and plant in a furrow about six inches deep, covering seed one inch and gradually filling in as plants grow. The ground should contain moisture enough to bring the plants up before wetting again. Protect young plants from birds and other pests and keep aphis off by using Black Leaf 40.

A number of early bulbs can now go in, two of which are Ranunculus and Anemones. Both can be planted pretty well in the sun about two inches deep in medium or light soil and one or one and a half inches in heavier soil. Plant about eight inches apart after soaking bulbs for a few hours in water. These bulbs can be planted until well on into the winter and will give a succession of blooms from early spring until May or June. Freesias can also go in, planting about the same depth and distance apart, but they should have a shady or partly shady location. There are a number of pretty colored freesias of comparatively recent introduction in different shades of pink, carmine, yellow and lavender, and they are all easy to raise. Most bulbs will be helped by mixing a handful of bone meal in the soil around them, when planting and the addition of a little sand in heavy soils helps to break it up.

Baby Gladiolus bulbs are also ready for planting and can be treated much the same as the larger variety, producing their pretty blooms of pink and rose, white and blotched, in the spring. The best effect is obtained by planting in groups in a sunny location, setting bulbs about six inches apart and three inches deep in well fertilized soil and good supply of moisture, remembering that the flowers will always face south and west.

Ixias are bulbous plants that ought to be used more in this locality, being very effective for groups or edges of walks and are very easy of culture. They grow on long, wiry graceful stems producing spikes of flowers in reds and yellows and other colors. Plant three or four inches apart and two inches deep. Spanish Iris should also be planted now in warm sunny location.

GOOBEROLOGY

The peanut is no nut, at all,
But just a bashful bean;
He spreads his blossom in the air,
When it drops off he feels so bare
He can't bear to be seen.
He has a most tremendous scare!
Ostrich like, he looks around
Dives his head into the ground,
And he stays there, great or small,
Till he's dug out in the Fall.

Arachis Hypogae is his name;
His modesty no one can blame,
Yet he gets roasted
just the same!

E. S. RYAN.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

SAN DIEGO'S HORTICULTURAL CHILDREN

By K. O. Sessions.

For many years Mr. and Mrs. Russell Allen of Bonita had growing in their native park plot a Fremontia Mexicana that was a great success so its seed were in demand. It died a few years ago, but its children are flourishing. One extra good specimen is in the garden of Miss Brundred and Miss Tenney at Chula Vista, and its seed crop has been bountiful this year. At Miss Amy Strong's Ramona home is another fine specimen. At Mr. Hugh Evans' interesting garden at Santa Monica are two specimen plants that were superb and very full of flowers August 6. At Mrs. Herbert S. Evans' and Mr. Wm. Templeton Johnson's gardens in Mission Hills, there are specimens and one at La Mesa in Mr. F. L. Hieatt's garden.

Being a native plant very little water is needed in late summer and fall. These plants are 6 to 8 ft. in diameter and 8 to 10 ft. tall. The seeds are black and round and not over ⅛ inch. This Mexican variety was brought here from Ensenada, but described and named by a Los Angeles botanist as it varies from the true type of F. Californica, by being a larger flower with a dark brown flushing over the back of the rich, clear, yellow petals and the foliage is also much larger.

A group of this plant should occupy some prominent slope in Balboa Park that it may become better known and appreciated. It makes a very excellent flowering branch for interior decoration and is worth growing for a cut flower.

The Ceanothus cyaneus is blooming sparingly but continuously, on the plants in cultivation in San Diego and its beauty is known and appreciated by the nurserymen of Central California and its seed is in demand..

These two plants in a combination will always be satisfactory and the same dry treatment will serve them both. They were discovered for horticulture in San Diego and are much to be proud of, but we need to plant more of them.

BOTANICAL GARDENS

Santa Barbara and Santa Monica are both aspiring to establish a real botanical garden. They say they want to outrival the Kew Gardens of London, the world's greatest botanical center. Of course a beginning must be made, but only very able and conservative management and a very big endorsement fund perpetually bearing an income will start such an enterprise right.

There is no question that the climate here would make it possible to approach Kew Gardens in the next 100 years, but in the next 25 to 50 years the show made would make such a garden very fine and attractive and the growth would far exceed that of Kew in the same number of years.

Kew today keeps in its glass houses potted plants that are alive, but they look hungry for such a home as California could give them. A greater variety of plants could be maintained in the open and better specimens than Kew can ever show, but how very close we could reach Kew in her botanical ability will be the big problem, but it is not an impossibility, of course.

While these neighboring cities are striving for this great and fine work why can't San Diego get busy and begin to establish a collection of Cacti and Alves and such plants that are associated together, for care and climatic conditions. We could soon have a cactus garden in Balboa Park that will outrival any such in the United States and the world. Ten years or less with very little money could do it and to the botanist, the world traveler and tourist, such a collection would be of intense interest. Our Balboa Park has the best climate in the world for such a growth, and the most comfortable place for visitors and students to enjoy it. Let us enlist the services of the Advertising Campaign to help us begin this interesting work. Why not advertise on the ground instead of on bill boards, newspapers, and flying machines; $1,000 per year would do a lot of work.

THE DAHLIA

Beauty vs. Points in Dahlias

(Due to the fact that dahlias will constitute one of the important flowers exhibited at the Fall Flower Show next month, September 11 and 12, the following article on points in dahlias will undoubtedly be of value to exhibitors and of interest to other readers.—Editor.)

What is a Dahlia for, anyway?

A strange question to ask, indeed, but one which came to me many times this year as I studied the new varieties at shows and at several trial grounds.

In judging at trial gardens and shows we must be impartial. Our own tastes do not count. A list of points has been drawn up by thoughtful people with the intention of keeping the standard high. Yet the awards were sometimes astonishing, even to the judges themselves!

Foliage must be healthy; stem must be long and strong; form must be even, symmetrical; substance must be such as will endure; color must be clear—no streaks; sizes must be LARGE.

It does seem that Dahlias which comply with such stadards cannot help be beautiful.

At one of the large shows, not in New Jersey, a new Dahlia of massive decorative

type, which the originator called "blue," won a coveted prize on all these points. It was a dark flower: I will not say magenta, but it was neither blue nor plum. A naked stem of eighteen inches, as stiff as a ramrod, held the perfectly symmetrical head facing straight to heaven; but in its vase we could see only the side of the bloom; getting upon a chair, in order to comply with the request not to handle the flowers yet to be able to look upon its face, we saw that the thick petals overlapped neatly and regularly, and that its center was as snug as a perfect rosette should be. The great coarse leaves had never seen thrip or leaf-hopper. This Dahlia fulfilled every requirement. It had all the POINTS, but no Beauty.

I saw it growing in the garden. The plants were six or seven feet tall, sparse in foliage, with here and there a monstrous blue-purple flower on a reddish stem.

What is the use of this flower? In the house one blossom overpowers the room, and by artificial light the color becomes dull clay. Coming into bloom at a time when all the world turns red and gold and russet brown, this color has no place in the garden. BUT—yes, this Dahlia had its use. It won the Prize!

The originator realized all that I have said of it, and all stock is now destroyed. Brave man! He should have another prize for having the courage of his convictions.

We have all felt instinctively that such Dahlias should be made to give way to those fulfilling the uses for which Dahlias were intended—for beautifying the house and garden. To this end the Trial Grounds have two ratings: Exhibition and Commercial. The latter must have the added quality of a free blooming habit, for the sake of the cut flower trade. These varieties are good garden types also. But even in this class a round mop of magenta may score well enough to win a certificate.

It was very interesting to study the enthusiasm of the visitors at the show of the Short Hills Garden Club, each according to his or her taste. Most of the Dahlias noted for future purchase were those which did not win prizes. Soft tones, loose petals and medium size were those more popular with people of refinement and education. A Dahlia must have a winsome individuality to take a woman's fancy; must be the kind which will blend with the furnishings of her home, or harmonize with the color scheme in her garden.

This is Beauty versus Points. Let us have points by all means; but let us have Beauty as well.

Perhaps the thoughtful people who arranged our points can devise a means by which artistic beauty may count among the many virtues needed to make a perfect Dahlia. Meanwhile let us all keep to a standard whereby, in culling our seedlings we may choose those which will be loved rather than those at which to stare.

What is YOUR ideal Dahlia from the standard of beauty alone? What color? What form? What size?

It would be interesting to hear from our members what they like the best. Please everybody answer! It will be most enlightening, and give us a new angle from which to judg the blooms next year.—By Henriette M. Stout in New Jersey Dahlia News.

A New Idea in Dahlia Displays

At the last show of a leading western Dahlia organization there was one display that attracted more attention and comment than any other. This display was positively unique in that none like it had ever been exhibited at any previous show of the society in question, and probably at no other Dahlia show anywhere.

While every other exhibitor tried to qualify in as many of the several classes as he could, this display consisted of one single Decorative variety, and seven hundred and fifty blooms, rather more, at that, massed, banked and pyramided in vases, baskets and on a high center dais, all covering nearly one hundred square feet of space.

The Dahlia, an "autumn-tinted" variety, was resplendent with its blended colors of salmon and bronze and a dash of amber and pink, and the display caught the eye of the observer from afar and was voted not only the most superb, but also the most unique exhibit in the entire show of twenty thousand blooms, attaining by uniformity of type and color what the other exhibits strove to win by diversity.

The imagination of the thoughtful observer was further taxed by the effort to visualize an entire field of growing plants, sufficiently numerous to furnish such an amazing number of blooms of one variety, all in fullness of shape and color and petal.

The writer was later informed that it required more than a thousand plants to make possible the display, and also that in the Fall over 8,000 tubers were harvested, all of this one variety.

It required courage and sportsmanship on the part of the exhibitor to relinquish the opportunity afforded by the show of displaying before an interested nad acquisitively-ordering public, the many other desirable varieties that formed part of his equipment as a Dahlia grower.

It would be interesting to calculate the effect of a massed exhibit like that described

in solid color, all white, or all red, or yellow, or pink. Only growers with a very large stock would be in a position to make such displays, but one such massed exhibit of one variety would enormously enhance the effect of the show as a whole, this exhibit alone among all the rest forming a picture that would remain indelibly on the retina of the mental eye. Whle the exhibitor would forfeit his chances of winning in the several classes he would be, nevertheless, more than compensated by the interest and admiration created by the display.

The writer is only an amateur with a limited garden capacity, but he intends to try the effect of massing as many blooms of one variety and color as he can gather from his 400 plants of different kinds, while at one end of his table, red at the other and autumn tints in the center. Maybe he will feel as satisfied as if his display was like Joseph's coat, of many colors.—George William Veditz, (Colo.)

Staking Dahlias

A lot of people object to putting in stakes at time of planting, as they claim stakes are unsightly without any plants showing. This I think is a mistaken idea. If stakes are painted or stained green, and in straight rows, evenly spaced, they are not at all unsightly.

Now for those that do not want to put up stakes let them put in bulbs systematically. By this I mean plant all bulbs one way; that is, if garden runs north and south, plant all bulbs with crown or sprout end facing east, or if garden is divided by a walk in center, plant bulbs on east side facing east, on west side facing west. By so doing when plants are large enough for staking the person knows that stake should be put in behind the stock. By doing this there is no danger of cutting bulb with stake.—E. C. Matthews, (Ontario.)

THE HOMESTEAD GARDEN

The following clipping is taken from the Newark Advertiser (England), this city being the old home of Park Superintendent John G. Morley. It is reproduced here so that California Garden readers may get a glimpse of a real English garden. One sentence in particular arrested the attention of the writer and he passes it on: "One cannot buy a garden ready-made; its chief glories are only yielded up to those who love their gardens, plan for them, tend and care for them, with infinite patience and devotion."—Editor.

Again this year, as in past years, Mr. and Mrs. J. Reynolds Hole, Balderton, have made their beautiful garden at the Homestead, free to all on Thursday afternoons. It is a privilege greatly prized and whole-heartedly embraced by the folk of Balderton, Newark and the villages near by. In one afternoon nigh upon 600 visitors, poor, middle-class, and well-to-do flower lovers all—walked round the well-kept borders, under the pergola and across the green sward. When the gates were closed upon them for the night there was found not a flower or shrub touched, and a complete absence of litter left behind. The kindly courtesy and consideration of Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds Hole was matched and returned in the impeccable behaviour of admiring throngs who love flowers and beautiful pleasuances for their own sakes and would preserve them. What a pleasure it is to hear and bear such testimony. An experience like this may well prompt others to move down the walls of partition, which hinder the sight and smell of gorgeous borders and beds of floral delights which many Newark gardens contain. There is a freemasonry of feeling amongst and between all those who delight in our English gardens.

The kiss of the sun for pardon,
The song of the birds for mirth;
One is nearer God's heart in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth.

The writer has seen folk, plain folk or rough and uncultured speech, who have walked through such a well-kept garden in a spirit of reverence and Godly fear. Hushed into tune and harmony with the loveliness and enchantment of nature in her floral habiliments, such folk have comported themselves as if in some Temple of worship, stately Cathedral, or sacred fane. It would be true to say:—

Here the secrets of the heart disclose,
Be they heavy with sadness or bright as the Rose."

Be it said the Homestead garden is a paradise of roses. The passion for the Queen of flowers, which distinguished Dean Hole, has in full measure descended to his kinsman, Mr. J. Reynolds Hole, and here in this Rosarium are to be found some two thousand two hundred rose trees, making a magic carpet of coloring in deftly arranged beds, gladdening the eye, and filling the enchanted vision of the beholder. One cannot buy a garden ready-made; its chief glories are only yielded up to those who love their gardens plan for them, tend and care for them, with infinite patience and devotion. So it is no surprise to find that this year Mr. Hole has carried out some more changes and made the whole scheme of his lovely retreat even lovelier. One finds oneself in perfect accord with the judgment. "It is even better than last year."

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CATS—BIRDS—INSECTS—GARDENS

By R. R. McLean.

A year ago or more the writer called attention to a discussion then proceeding concerning the part insects are playing in upsetting the balance nature has always maintained between various forms of animal and vegetable life. It was pointed out at that time that man himself has set in motion the forces which have made it possible for insects, in some marked degree at least, to interfere seriously with present economic conditions. Many instances are known to entomologists where insects are apparently winning in their fight against man, spreading with unchecked rapidity in spite of modern scientific methods of control.

All this is of considerable interest to the flower and garden lover. If one wants to grow almost any of our common plants nowdays, insects must be fought unceasingly. Not only that but other orders of animal life have joined forces with insects, witness our trials and tribulations with snails and slugs, (Mollusks) sow bugs, (Crutaceans) and red spiders, (Arachnids). It does not help a gardener very much, in his fight against these pests, to know that in the beginning most of the trouble could have been avoided if proper precautions had been taken by some one.

Among the illustrations cited to prove that insects are increasing their field of operation and the amount of damage caused, is that of the codling moth or apple worm, once more or less rare but now found everywhere apples and pears are grown. To make the matter worse the codling moth has increased his menu to include walnuts, so that in Southern California the walnut crop is often very seriously damaged by this insect, and expensive measures of control must be undertaken. The cotton boll-weevil was once unknown in this country but now takes a toll of many millions of dollars anually. A new cotton boll-weevil has lately appeared out of the mountains of Arizona and threatens to do fully as much damage as its consin. The Japanese beetle, esatblished in some of the eastern states, is without doubt the greatest insect menace to agrculture we have yet faced. It is spreading rapidly and without much check. The cockroach originated in India and has been distributed all over the world by ships. The gipsy moth was brought over from Europe for experimentation and through the carelessness of a scientist was released. It now threatens the life of millions of shade and forest trees. The Oriental peach moth was introduced here from Japan through the medium of an imported cherry tree. It now takes a tremendous toll annually from peach growers in the east and south. The San Jose scale was imported from China, accidentally of course, but none the less disastrously.

As pointed out in the beginning man alone is responsible for the dissemination and increase of these pests.

Presumably the reader is wondering where cats and birds, as advertised in the caption, come in. Birds are the best friends gardeners and agriculturists have. Cats are the worst enemies of birds. Without birds insect life would become intolerable in its abundance and voracity. Doubtless human life itself would be imperilled both by direct attack of insects and by reason of their destruction of food plants. Birds are the most effective natural enemies insects have. Cats, by their war against birds, have joined forces with insects to destroy plant life. A writer in Harpers, W. A. Dupuy, has the following to say about cats, his conclusions being heartily endorsed by the writer:

"Six thousand years ago in Egypt, when man first began to supplement himself by grouping about him other elements in nature, he found in the Numidian forest a brindled wild cat with black soles to its feet, which lent itself to domestication as has no other cat in the world, and took readily to the idea of living in man's household. When traders first began to thread the Mediterranean Sea they carried these pets to Athens, to Carthage, to Rome. There they multiplied and, with the passing generations, spread over all Europe, still maintaining almost in its purity the strain of the blackfooted beast from Egypt. Englishmen brought these cats to Massachusetts and Virginia. They increased in stupendous numbers, and today they blanket America."

"Cats feed largely on birds. When man came to America there was a balance between bird life and that of the animals which prayed upon it. Man introduced a new element, the Egyptian cat, which has become dominant. These cats, preying on bird life, have upset the balance. There are fewer birds in America than there should be. Birds are one of nature's checks on insect life, and that check has been greatly weakened. Insects may breed today with less restraint than they did before. The cat is their effective ally."

COMPLETE FILES FOR SALE

Complete files of California Garden can now be had at a very nominal price. These files go back to the year 1909, and each copy is filled with valuable data for garden lovers. Address all inquiries to Box No. 323, San Diego, California.

LATH HOUSE MATTERS

By Alfred D. Robinson.

I have had a sort of sporting adventure and a tragedy in the lath house since I last wrote. The adventure was a good rat hunt. So well have my efforts succeeded to make my lath house have a woodsy atmosphere, that a pair of wood rats moved in from the brush and started housekeeping on the roof. For some time I noticed bits of vines and green leaves scattered on the path in a certain corner, then vine streamers faded and died till I was compelled to seek the cause, and looking up saw a huge bundle of sticks and leaves collected on the lath under the shade of a plumbago. A wire cage trap was set, baited with grain and hidden inside a sack, but the rats were too busy getting settled to notice it, or a gunner who shot one of them, and then the other went in the trap and signified the act in a few days by a bad smell.

The tragedy occurred in the bird house, where a quite sizeable snake was discovered suspiciously bulgy in spots and his corpse gave up three canaries and some scrambled eggs. No doubt former mysterious disappearances lay at this snake's door, but this time excessive gluttony was his undoing, hungry he came through a mouse hole, loaded with three canaries, etc., he could not so exit, let us all take warning. This snake is striped longitudinally with yellow and dark maroon, he is of the same family as a pair that parked under one of my brooders in my chicken era and swiped the chicks by the score, I do not know his name, nor care to, let him be nameless as well as dead.

The tuberous seedlings are now blooming, starting with the Lloydii, a name I have adopted because it is short though I find these catalogued as Hanging Basket Tuberous, Tuberosa Pendula, etc. I have been given to understand that some one named Lloyd had something to do with the introduction to th's country of the first of this class, a pink, and I do not find the name Lloydii used in European lists, possibly Tuberosa Pendula would be the most fitting appellation, however, what is in a name, a Begonia with any other name will droop as gracefully. With me these Pendula have a much longer season than the upright group and it would seem quite possible by selection to get a class upright and bushy that would be admirable for bedding purposes. Possibly the Lloydii could be used to designate the class with narrow long petals like a bunch of baby ribbon as the group embraces many other styles, singles, rosettes, hibiscus flowered, etc., all well worth while. I am anxiously awaiting the flowering of the Narcissus seedlings from Rosecroft seed, the seed parents are just beginning to bloom, being the latest of all, and they are as charming and interesting as ever. I hope for other colors and expect reports from many places, as our seed went all over the country being the one strain on the market.

I am always glad to get through July, I have found it what at school was called the pons asinorum for the seedling tender. It acts like the point in the engine that the governor takes care of, a sort of balancing place when the seedlings are deciding whether to go forward or quit. This may be mere fancy but if so I am getting much comfort over the belief that everything, especially small plants, have made much faster progress this first week of August than during any similar length of time in the past month. The little Rexes seem peculiarly sensitive to the asses bridge, though the turn towards more night and less day may be the real reason, which would not interfere with the argument.

I still swear by rainwater and find that my supply so painfully stored will last over. The goldfish in my tubs wax extra fat as they struggle with the mosquito eggs, but they have undertaken the job and are doing it and if I had tubs and fish enough I believe I could eliminate the mosqu'to by enticing them to their finish to lay eggs in my perfectly good and odoriferous rainwater. Begin now to arrange to catch some rainwater this next wet season so that you can give your plants a treat.

I have found watering twice a day advisable for some of these warm spells and a sprinkling all over paths, etc. Of course things in pots and baskets must be watched closely. I have no sympathy with the casual waterer, this treating to a cooling drink of our plant friends ought to be almost a sacrament. I never hurry it, it is the time when I take stock and during it I have planned almost every change I have made in the lath house for many years. Oh yes, I get my feet wet every time and the sniffles quite often, I have never seen a nozzle that could acceptably take the place of the finger or thumb at the end of the hose and I will forget to keep my elbow up and when it goes down the water trickles up my arm till I am wet to the shoulder and often far beyond. And that reminds me, in the last issue of an Eastern Florist's paper I saw advertised what from the illustration I judged a new and rather elaborate walking stick, but the reading matter said it was a new hose nozzle to put the water right at the roots of the plants. The stick was hollow with a hole near the point,

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NOTES ON SUCCULENTS

By Harry Johnson.

Pedilanthes Aphylla.

The Red Bird Flower was really most happily named for the flowers inevitably suggest a scarlet bird perched on a twig. It is not a member of the Cactus family, though commonly thought to be, but belongs to the Spurges or Euphorbiaceae as is evidenced by the abundant milky sap and the peculiar characteristics of the flower. The Poinsettia and Crown of Thorns are closely related to it as are also the gorgeously colored Crotons of our greenhouses and the homely Castor Bean.

The slendor, quill-like, unbranched stems form a dense tuft all arising from a common trunk at the ground level and ascending to a height of 12 to 18 inches. The leaves are evanescent drooping almost as soon as formed, a character shared by many plants growing in dry regions as the common Spanish Broom. The flowers are most interesting and their disposal is unique. Poised at the tips of the branches like scarlet birds just taking wing, a cluster of staminodes protruding from the petal-like sheath of scarlet bracts, within numbers of red anthers in all stages of development and pressed close against the stalked pistil; at the base of a spur or pocket opening by two flaps hiding from rapicious marauders two glands secreting honey. These flowers are borne singly and lasting a long time for insect visitors are probably few. A succession arises from buds formed at the base of the pedicel. The flowers of th's and other Euphorbias are interesting for they really represent a cluster of degenerate, unisexual flowers, the staminate members being little more than a single stamen, the pistillate reduced to the bare essential organs the entire community surrounded by colored bracts.

The plant is admirably adapted to the rigors of a dry habitat with its round, grey, waxy stems, leafless and tufted habit. It is interesting to observe that the ability to conquer and exceptional environmen seems to be inherent in some genera and sometimes whole families of plants. Thus the Euphorbiaceae has many members frequenting tracts of scanty rainfall, one genus alone having a thousand such species. Desert regions have perhaps always existed on the earth but almost certainly they are better colonized today at least in the number of species represented than in any past epoch. Our flowering plants, on the whole, are new to these inclement areas and we may still see the rugged pioneers pushing the frontiers backward.

There are some thirty species of Pedilanthes all native to tropical America, P. aphylla being indigenous to Mexico. The plant was

(Continued on Page 15)

Special Hot Weather Sale of Plants

Just to stimulate an interest in plants during the hot weather, we have cut the price down to where every one can buy. WE HAVE THE MOST COMPLETE COLLECTION OF FANCY FERNS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. They are all on special at 35c each in medium sizes. Tree ferns from $1 to $5. Thousands of begonias, including 300 Rexes, all go at 25c. 20 varieties palm trees, 50c and up.

In our general nursery department all outdoor ornamental shrubs, trees and vines are 25c each regardless of size or value.

FERTILIZER — Cow fertilizer, 50c; sheep fertilizer, 75c sack. Cottonseed fertilizer, 75c sack.

Cash and carry. No phone orders.

Note: This is a bonifide sale where prices are cut from 25 to 75%. No we are not going out of business nor forced to vacate. We are just "cleaning house". Sale ends August 15.

Open Evenings Till Dark

THE NATIONAL FERNERY,

1223 E. 18th St., National City.

THE LATH HOUSE

(Continued from Page 12)

the hose attached at the heel of the handle while in front of the hand hold was the cutoff. I know lots of people who would water with this trinket just for the fun and the novelty while they watched for signs of being full up in the faces of the plant. Oh, one sticks the thing in the ground on the principle of an hypodermic injection and it is similar to a very large hypo syringe.

Through one of my best friends I have secured a plant of the Begonia our Miss Sessions sighted and coveted for me in Europe and it came with a name Sessilifolia; it is quite a different plant to any we have had. The leaves, if leaves they be, are arranged in an incomplete circle perfectly horizontal from the stem and are narrow and long and thick and a shorter and subsidiary story of them arrives on the top as age comes on. The stems are red, the leaves light green and Miss Sessions said she saw it climbing a post, mine two feet high is braced to a stake. It is a curiosity for sure. There is another chapter to this story, for Miss Sessions got the name as Luxurians and the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburg by arrangement sent her on a seed pot which I planted and the seed came famously but it is not a darned bit like Sissilifolia, though Miss Sessions persists in claiming it and disowning the seedlings. Oh well, it would not be a Begonia if the name could be straightened out at the first attempt.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

San Diego Floral Association, Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., 1926.

AFTERNOON MEETINGS

September 7th. Informal Tea and Exchange of Bulbs and Cuttings. Floral Bldg.

October 5th. Chrysanthemum Show and Tea. Talk by Mr. Campbell.

November 2nd. A stroll through Mission Hills Gardens or a visit to the Kahn and Wangenheim Gardens.

December 7th. Exhibit and sale of Christmas wreaths and cone and berry bearing trees and shrubs. Talk on Church and House decorating.

EVENING MEETINGS

September 21. The making of Rock Gardens and Water Gardens. Miss Robinson and Miss Olsen.

October 19. Wild Flowers of California. By Mr. Robt. Kessler, illustrated by Mr. Harold Taylor, and exhibit of the Valentine plantings.

November 16. Orchard and Kitchen Garden Deciduous Trees, Mr. Johnson. Citrus and Tropical Trees, Mr. Sallmon. Vegetables and Berries.

December 21. No meeting.

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Frying your breakfast bacon is more or less boiling it in its own fat.

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NOTES ON SUCCULENTS

(Continued from Page 13)

introduced some ten or twelve years ago by the Department of Agriculture, it being thought useful as a wat producing crop.

Pedilanthas thrives in a warm shady loam with the general care of Cacti. Propagation I have found to be rather slow and difficult, the cuttings taking a long time to root.

Portulacaria Afra

Portulacaria is not new to our gardens. though it is infrequently planted, lacking as it does any spectacular qualities. This very absence of pronounced features makes it possible to plant it in many diverse situations.

In our gardens it grows fairly rapidly to a height of four or five feet forming an upright bush with drooping reflexed branches. The general texture of the plant is medium in contrast to a Century plant or a Tuna cactus. These are rough and coarse and need to be used with care in our gardens. The Portulacaria on the other hand may be planted more widely and thus its scope of usefulness is broadened. The pleasing, dark green color, shrubby character, drought resistant and permanence fit it to be used in corners that are sure to be neglected as at the base of walls where the radiation is intense and normal plants burn out. In the succulent garden and rockery it makes a good specimen to be used in the background.

The Dutch colonists of the Karroo in South Africa where the plant is wild, call it "Speckboom", and it is interesting to note that this practical people found time to notice it. There it forms a small tree ten to twelve feet high and quite probably dominates portions of the region. In Namaqualand a sister species, P. namaquensis takes its place. It is rather similar in habit but has much smaller leaves and probably more pronounced desert features. So far it has not been introduced into cultivation.

The Portulacarias belong to the Purslane family or Portulacaceae the members of which generally seek dry situations and border on succulence, i. e., Portulaca, Calandrina, etc., though this is the only genus commonly cultivated in the rockery here. The name is derived from Portulaca the plant having originally been classed as such.

It is easily increased by means of cuttings taken at most any time of the year.

THE HOMESTEAD GARDEN

(Continued from Page 10)

Let the reader go and see. Roses are disposed in many beds, they border the flagged walks, spread themselves over pergola and pyramid and arbor. One novelty rose this year is a new bloom produced by Mr. Hole, and named after his wife, the "Mrs. J. Reynolds Hole" rose. There are some half-dozen to be seen in perfect flower. This rose has petals of carmine, tipped with yellow. It is own cousin to the Queen Alexandra rose, long so popular. Other gems in this collection noticed and admired were "Hall Mark Crimson," L' Souvenir de Gould Pernet, Scarlet Orleans, Albaric Barbier, Independence Day, K. of K., Red Letter Day (a very gay flowering rose), Mabel Morse, May Marmott, charming in color and texture, Gwynne Carr, a pale pink, Padre, a beautiful cerise, Daily Mail, Rev. F. Page Roberts, a yellow, Lady Roundhay, a slowly orange, Lady Inchiquin, an old favorite, etc., etc.

Rock Garden

For some years now rock gardens have been fashionable, and Mr. Hole has made a great stride forward with his sunk garden by the old wall. He has a very fine show of choice rock plants and of infinte variety. Just now there is a mass of bloom to be seen. Blue Nipeta is a very gay and flourishing, brooms are in choice colorings but getting nearly over. Campanulas are full of color, and there are flowery Thymes in many unusual shades; horseleek rosettes abound, and the cobweb horseleek flourishes amazingly and in many shades. The sun roses are a flame of color, ruby Thrift demands admiration, so do the deep yellow Shirley poppies. In the rock garden, too, are some tiny juniper cupressi trees, perfect in shape for all their dwarf proportions. From the main lawns there are encircling borders of old Englsh flowers and new ones, so arranged with regard as to mass, color and proportion as to delight the eye wherever it ranges. Olympian Mullins send their yellow heads skyward, like pinnacles from a broad-based tower, and are flanked by bright blue aquilegia, also pink shades; Canterbury bells, white and blue, Digitalis in red and white spikes, Geum in orange, scarlet, golden yellow, and deep crimson tints. The free flowering nemesia in rainbow colors makes a gay show, and the broad borders are filled up with soft blue, deep purple, chocolate tipped with yellow, and scarlet Lupins, Phlox, Calceolari, and the showy varieties of antirrhinum; Mimulus, too, with here and there a heightened effect from the Japanese Maples, red and white valerian, etc., etc. Round one corner the visitor comes across a half-hidden border of delphiniums with gorgeous blue spikes high uplifted, and furnished with deep and soft blues, purples, delicate mauves and royal blues with white and yellow eyes or pips. Other flowers include sunbeam poppies, red thrift, pentstemon in salmon pink and crimson shades, and white campanula. The walls and paths are cunningly contrived, and one grass path cut through the orchard is banked by clumps of bamboos, white and

black, flowering cherries, and coral thorns. Another rock garden is to be found by the lily pool, where can be seen much to admire and interest. One has written thus of this beautiful garden in the hope that the reader will avail himself or herself of a Thursday evening's delight by walking out to see it, and if they do so their gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hole will be like mine, sincere and unqualified.

GATHERING FLOWERS FOR EXHIBITION

(Bulletin of the Missouri Botanical Garden)

Commercial growers who exhibit at flower shows have most of the growing conditions under control, but amateurs are entirely dependent upon natural conditions. Prespective exhibitors are apt to have their choice blooms destroyed by wind, rain, heat, insects, and diseases. All of these conditions must be guarded against as the time of the show draws near, as a poorly developed or disfigured bloom will always disqualify an exhibit in the eyes of the judges. To guard against injury of flowers by rain the blooms should be cut one or two days previous to the time of exhibition. Some flowers may be cut sooner than this. For instance, the Peony may be picked at the time the first petals begin to unfold, and it gains in size and beauty by being kept in a dark cool place to take up as much water as possible. The Iris opens very rapidly, and on this account should not be cut until the evening before the show. In examining the buds one can see readily which will open the following day.

When gathering flowers for exhibition purposes it is well to carry along a pail half filled with water and to place the flowers in the pail immediately upon cutting them. It is better not to crowd too many flowers in the pail, but rather to make several trips to the house and carefully place them in deep containers full of cool water. The gathered flowers should be kept in a cool dark place free from draughts in order to reduce transpiration and to enable the stems to take up as much water as possible.

Light-colored flowers lose much of their beauty if allowed to open in the strong sunlight. If the flowers are of such a nature that they cannot be cut until just before the show, it is well to construct some temporary shading of cheesecloth.

It sometimes happens that the choicest blooms have developed too rapidly and are in danger of being past their prime at show time. In that case the development can be slightly checked by constructing some heavier shading over the plants, this being removed towards evening and replaced in the morning. For protecting individual flowers small cones of waxed cloth or paper may be purchased, or they can be made at home from stout waterproof paper. The cones should be at least six inches in diameter and fastened to a stake just above the bloom. The flower should also be well staked to prevent being whipped about by the wind. In fact, as the spring season is usually unsettled, much damage can be prevented if all tall plants that are apt to be broken by the wind are staked and securely tied.

Most perennials can be cut a day in advance of the show if placed in a cool dark place. On the day of the show all dead or decaying leaves should be removed, a fresh cut made at the bottom of the stems, and the water changed in the pails or vases. Cut flowers for the home should be treated in this manner every day, as water tainted with decaying vegetable matter is very detrimental to the flowers.

Transportating flowers to the show is a problem that confronts every exhibitor. Irises in bud or open flower are perhaps the most difficult to handle on account of their delicate structure and habit of branching. Wrapping them is almost out of the question, and the only way to manage is to leave them in a bucket or wide-mouthed vase and transport in some conveyance in which the flowers are protected from wind and contact with any solid objects. Smaller flowers, such as Delphiniums, Daisies, Pansies and Violets, can be carried in bundles, or better still, boxes. Moist paper or moss should be put over the stems, but water should not come in contact with the blooms. When arranging the flowers at the show the tips of the stems should again be cut in order that they may continue taking up water. When packing flowers, such as Peonies, Tulips and Roses, a light covering of tissue paper around each flower before placing in the box will prevent bruising of the petals. Tissue paper is a great aid and should be used unstintingly in separating layers.

Sprays or shrubs are treated in the same way as the perennials, both as to gathering and packing. Pendulous branches of shrubs sometimes hang in an awkward position and when in bloom do not give the desired effect. This can be remedied by staking the branches that are to be cut in such a way that when the flowers open they are facing in the right direction.

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